WEEKLY
SHONEN
JUMP
16
05
JUMP START SERIES
TAKUAN AND BATSU'S
DAILY DEMON DIARY
No.24

HELL...
KING ENMA'S GATE OF JUDG-MENT...
IT IS HERE THAT KING ENMA JUDGES THE SOULS OF SINNERS...
...AS THE KING OF HELL THE KING OF ORDER
MASTER ATSU ARE WE HEADING TO THE SURFACE?
IN THE NAME OF MY FATHER, I WILL RESTORE ORDER.

I AM KING ENMA'S ONLY DAUGHTER
PLEASE CALL ME BATSU!
IMPROPER ETIQUETTE IS A VIOLATION OF ORDER.
ペコ
BOW
SO FIRST, I'LL NEED TO PROPERLY INTRODUCE MYSELF TO EVERYONE IN THE HUMAN WORLD

TAKUAN AND BATSU'S DAILY DEMON DIARY

PAGE 1 : THE EVERYDAY

BY KENTARO ITANI

NIHONGO LESSON

HELL SPAWN!

Welcome to the Nihongo Lesson feature. We strive to give you useful manga-based Japanese language tips and maybe even a glimpse into the translation process. This week's lesson will feature terms from our newest JUMP START series, *Takuan and Batsu's Daily Demon Dairy*. This series with a long title offers valuable lessons about Japanese mythology and demons! Let's take a look at the most obvious one.

ENMA (えんま)

ENMA is the mythological king of hell who judges the dead and decides where one's soul is sent. ENMA is frequently referred to as ENMA DAIO or "Great King Enma" and appears in many manga and anime series. This series is pretty original in that the story seems to focus on the king of hell's daughter! Batsu is definitely a lot cuter than some of the kings of hell we've seen in other *Shonen Jump* manga, such as *Dragon Ball* and *YuYu Hakusho*! But what secrets lurk behind her devilish grin?

THE GREAT KING E
THE JUDGE OF THE UNDERWORLD IN JAPANESE MYTHOLOGY. HE DECIDES WHETHER MORTALS GO TO HEAVEN OR HELL.
I GUESS I'M SCREWED IF I TRY TO CUT ENMA.
WILL YOU QUIT THINKING SO LOUD?!
SHUT UP !!!
THE DAIRY

MUSUME (むすめ)

MUSUME means "daughter." And for some extra knowledge, "son" is MUSUKO. As the MUSUME of King Enma, Batsu has a lot of responsibilities on her young shoulders. But what exactly are her goals? Find out in this JUMP START of *Takuan and Batsu's Daily Demon Dairy*!

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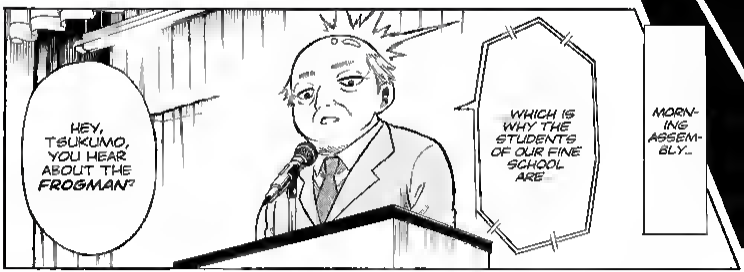
ARE YOU BORED WITH DAILY LIFE?
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU THINK THAT THERE'S NO CHANGING IT.
YOU DON'T APPRECIATE THE JOY OF THE EVERYDAY UNTIL YOU LOSE IT.
TAKURO TSUKUMO
OH! THAT'S TAKUAN FROM CLASS 3
ON THE SCHOOL HYGIENE COMMITTEE
SEE YA LATER, TAKUAN!
KRIK
AND SO THE DAY CAME WHEN ALL NORMALCY WAS LOST...
DON'T! CALL! ME! TAKUAN!

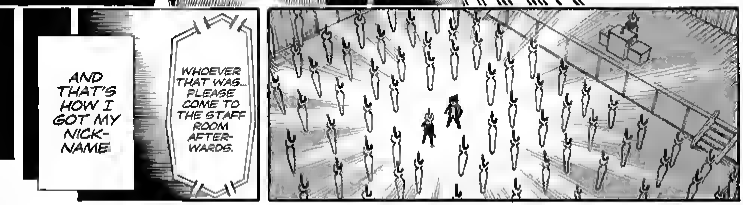


THE PRINCIPAL MIGHT BE BALD, BUT THAT DOESN'T MAKE HIM A FROG
I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT HIM.
THIS MORNING, I HEARD A RUMOR ABOUT A FROG MONSTER THAT WALKS AROUND ON TWO LEGS
THAT'S PRETTY RUDE
SOUNDS CRAZY, RIGHT? WANNA GO SEARCH FOR IT?
IF YOU HAVE THE TIME...
...YOU SHOULD JUST SEARCH FOR ORDINARY HAPPINESS IN EVERY DAY LIFE, IDIOT.

FOR INSTANCE, THE TAKUAN I ATE FOR BREAKFAST WAS AMAZING
IT'S EASY TO FIND JOY IN THE MUNDANE AND DAILY LIFE.
HERE WE GO AGAIN WITH TSUKUMO'S "TREATISE ON HAPPINESS AND DAILY LIFE"
YOU'VE GOT RICE ON YOUR FACE.
YOU SURE ARE BORING
EVERY-DAY LIFE JUST GETS SO DULL.
YOU NEED SOMETHING EXCITING EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE
SIGH

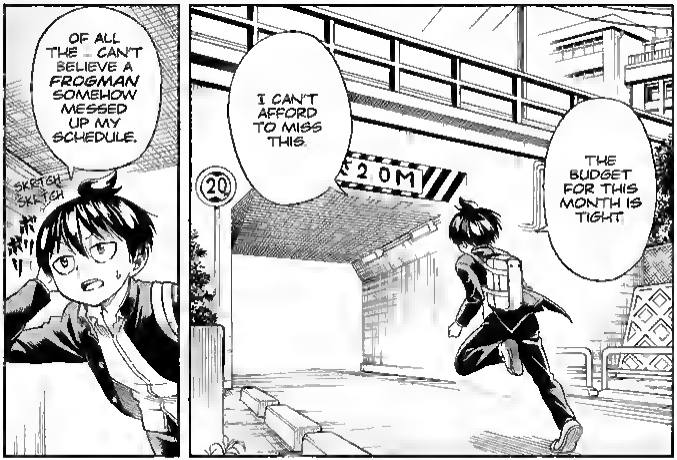
*NOTE TAKUAN IS A PICKLED RADISH IN JAPAN

IT'S THE TAKUAN THAT'S ALWAYS THERE FOR YOU!
IT'S NOT THE OCCASIONAL STEAK THAT MAKES DINNER A PLACE TO FIND HAPPINESS.
EVEN THE GIRLS SAY YOU SEEM LIKE A BORING GUY TO DATE.
AN AVERAGE GUY LIKE YOU.
GRRR...


AND THAT'S HOW I GOT MY NICK-NAME.
WHOEVER THAT WAS... PLEASE COME TO THE STAFF ROOM AFTER-WARDS.

SAY GOOD-BYE TO TAKURO'S FORMER EVERYDAY LIFE...
YOU PICKLE YOUR OWN TAKUAN OR WHAT?
MEMBER OF THE SCHOOL BEAUTI-FICATION COMMIT-TEE (HAS MULTIPLE JOBS)
WOW. THIS.
ALL BECAUSE MY TAKUAN AT BREAK-FAST WAS SO DARN DELICIOUS...
SPLISH

THIS IS WHERE IT ALL BEGINS FOR TAKUAN...
TMP TMP TMP
CRAP! LOST TRACK OF TIME. I'M GONNA MISS THE SUPER-MARKET'S LIMITED-TIME SALE


THE BUDGET FOR THIS MONTH IS TIGHT
I CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS THIS.
20M
20
OF ALL THE... CAN'T BELIEVE A FROGMAN SOMEHOW MESSED UP MY SCHEDULE.
SKRTCH SKRTCH

MIGHT I INQUIRE ABOUT THAT PARTICULAR MATTER?
HUH?
MUST BE MY IMAGI-NATION...

EX-
CUSE
ME.
GOTTA
HURRY
NNER
ZU
ZU
GUHH!
CLAMP
PLEASE
WAIT!
PLEASE
ALLOW
ME TO
INTRODUCE
MYSELF...
NNER
ZU
ZU
IMPROPER
ETIQUETTE
IS A
VIOLATION
OF ORDER.
I'D LIKE
TO ASK
YOU MORE
ABOUT
THIS
FROGMAN,
BUT...

WHERE'D SHE COME FROM?
HUH?

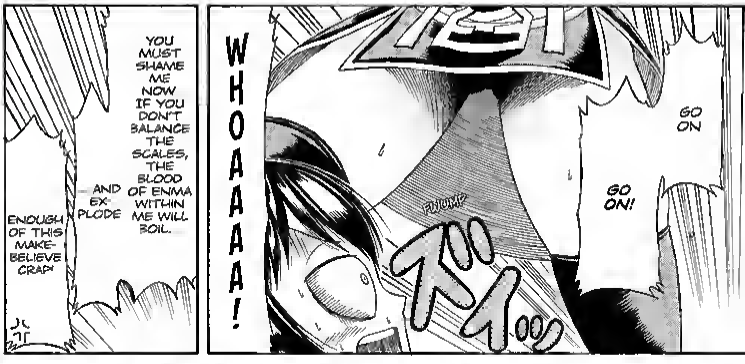
I AM HERE TO JUDGE THEM.
YOUR FROGMAN MAY HAVE SOME THING TO DO WITH THE DEMONS OF HELL
SHAKA SHAKA
WHY'RE YOU INTRODUCING YOURSELF FROM UP THERE?
GET OFF A ME.

SWAY...SWAY
グラ
グラ
IMPROPER ETIQUETTE IS A VIOLATION OF ORDER. ETIQUETTE MUST ALWAYS BE OBSERVED
W-WATCH IT!

I AM KING ENMA'S ONLY DAUGHTER.
PRIM きっちり
PLEASE CALL ME BATSU
SWIP

P-PARDON ME... I SHOULD HAVE CLIMBED DOWN FIRST.
Y-YOU GOT THAT RIGHT...
SHF SHF
WHO IS SHE?
H-HEAD-BUTT ME, PLEASE.
W-WHA-?!
I HEAD BUTTED YOU IN YOUR NETHER REGIONS AND SHAMED YOU.
TO MAKE THINGS RIGHT, YOU MUST DO THE SAME TO ME
BAM
ぱかっ

EVERYTHING YOU'RE SAYING IS A VIOLATION OF LOGIC!
INJUSTICE IS A VIOLATION OF ORDER.
FOR EVERY CRIME, A PUNISHMENT!! FOR EVERY CROTCH, A CROTCH!!


ENOUGH OF THIS MAKE-BELIEVE CRAP!
YOU MUST SHAME ME NOW IF YOU DON'T BALANCE THE SCALES, THE BLOOD OF ENMA WITHIN ME WILL BOIL.
—AND EXPLODE
WHOAAAA!
FUUUMP
GO ON
GO ON!

IS THAT SO?
IF YOU'RE REALLY WHO YOU SAY YOU ARE, I'LL DO WHATEVER YOU ASK, LORD ENMA.
THEN I'D TELL YA TO JUST FORGET ABOUT THE HEADBUTT THING.
SHE'S PERSISTENT!
AND WHAT IF I TRULY WERE KING ENMA'S DAUGHTER?
SO YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME...
NO WAY
SHF

EEEEEEK!
OH..?
...UNFORGIVABLE
BECAUSE BREAKING A PROMISE WITH ENMA IS...
WAS THAT A SCREAM?
HUH?
ZOOSH
PATTER
PATTER

BAUM
RAWRR!
GUH

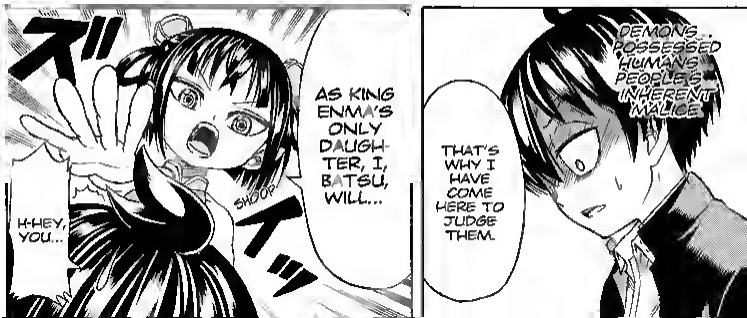
G-GUH
SWIP
YOU'RE IN OVER YOUR HEAD... IN FACT, YOU NEARLY LOST YOUR HEAD.
Y-YOU...
YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE THE RECKLESS TYPE...SO WHY?
IT'S JUST...
BY THE BLOOD OF ENMA, I CALL ON HELL...
BLOOP
...TO SUMMON...
...THE GAVEL OF JUDGMENT.
CHOMP
I'LL FINISH THIS.
SUSH
SWIRL

ENMA GAVEL
SLAM
THIS BLOOD SEAL WILL JUDGE...
...ALL OF YOUR SINS
SHINK
NEEDLE HELL!
BLOODG MENT!
POP
*SEAL NEEDLE

!!
AH!
GOT IT.
RUI
PURSUE HIM.
YATAGARASU RUI
SPLASH
FSHH
WHAT...? THAT FROGMAN... AND YOU GUYS...
I MAY HAVE ALREADY FAILED.
IF HE REVERTS TO HUMAN FORM AND BLENDS INTO THE CROWD, ALL COULD BE LOST.

MY FATHER, KING ENMA, WAS MURDERED NOT VERY LONG AGO.
HIS DEATH HAS DISRUPTED THE ORDER OF HELL.
THAT WAS A HUMAN.
HUH?

BASICALLY...
THEY POSSESS HUMANS AND STRENGTHEN THEIR INHERENT MALICE
AS SUCH, THE DENIZENS OF HELL, EVIL SPIRITS, MONSTERS, IMPS...
MALICE
THOSE HUMANS TURN INTO MONSTERS AND USE THEIR NEWFOUND ABILITIES TO COMMIT CRIMES.
...IN OTHER WORDS, WHAT YOU CALL DEMONS, HAVE BEGUN TO INVADE THE HUMAN WORLD


ズ
AS KING ENMA'S ONLY DAUGHTER, I, BATSU, WILL...
SHOO?
ズズ
H-HEY, YOU...
DEMONS... POSSESSED HUMANS... PEOPLE'S INHERENT MALICE...
THAT'S WHY I HAVE COME HERE TO JUDGE THEM.

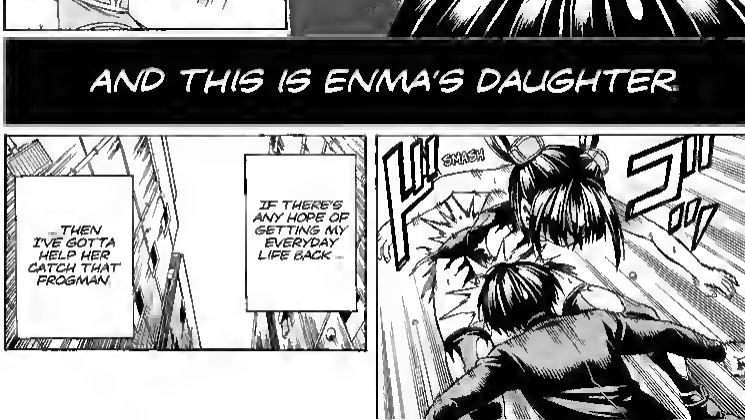
GAHH!
PLEASE LOOK AWAY
YOUR CLOTHES
HUH?
WHO GOES AND MESSES WITH SOMEONE ELSE'S EVERYDAY LIFE?
YOU COULD HAVE JUST TURNED MY WHOLE HEAD!
IS THIS ACID?
THEY'VE MELTED AWAY...
HM?
AH!
A POLICE BADGE KUNIEDA?
Kunieda
THIS IS THE WOMAN WHO WAS ATTACKED JUST NOW...
RU! MAY HAVE A HARD TIME PURSUING THE VILLAIN.
I WONDER... WHAT SHOULD I DO?
YOU SHOULD FIRST GO TO THE POLICE WITH THIS.

EVERY INVESTIGATION STARTS WITH A BACKGROUND CHECK OF THE VICTIM.
FIND OUT IF OFFICER KUNIEDA HAD ANY PARTICULARLY MALICIOUS PEOPLE IN HER LIFE.
IF SO, THAT'S YOUR FROGMAN.
...
BOTH OF US SHOULD GO TO THE POLICE, THEN.
SHP
H-HUH?! WHY ME...?
YOU PROMISED TO DO WHATEVER I ASK, ASSUMING I'M REALLY THE DAUGHTER OF KING ENMA, RIGHT?
UNTIL THE MATTER OF THIS FROGMAN IS RESOLVED.
. YOU WILL SERVE AS MY MINION.
HOW PERFECT. I WAS HOPING TO FIND A LACKEY HERE IN THE HUMAN WORLD.
AND WHAT'S MORE, YOU SEEM EAGER TO INVESTIGATE
N-NO WAY.
THAT WASN'T REALLY A PROMISE...
WERE YOU LYING?
POOF
*SEAL. REVERSED KANJI FOR "LIFE."

WHOOSH
7
TONGUE-EXTRACTION HELL
TELL A LIE TO ONE OF THE ENMA BLOODLINE...
...AND YOU'LL LOSE YOUR TONGUE.
S-SURE GOT IT...
WE HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING, THEN.
SHOMP
FOR MY FIRST ORDER.

STILL OBSESSED OVER JUSTICE OR WHATEVER
KING ENMA IS SUPPOSED TO BE THE JUDGE OF HELL, RIGHT?
HEAD-BUTT MY NETHER REGIONS!
WHEN IT COMES TO HIMSELF AND OTHERS...
HE'S A REAL STICKLER FOR THE RULES. NO MERCY ALLOWED.

AND THIS IS ENMA'S DAUGHTER.



TRYING TO RECLAIM EVERYDAY NORMALCY
PUHHH
SSSIP
HEY, TAKURO!
POLICE DETECTIVE
TOSHIAKI SASAJIMA
IT'S SO THAT I CAN CALM MYSELF, NO MATTER WHERE I AM.
WHAT WEIRDO
DO YOU... CARRY A TEACUP WHEREVER YOU GO?
IS HE A FRIEND OF YOURS?
YEAH... MY MOTHER USED TO BE A POLICE OFFICER.
HOW'RE YOU DOING? IT'S BEEN A WHILE.
SHF
GOOD TO YOU SEE, MR. SASAJIMA.
WHAT'S THIS NOW? YOU HAVE A GIRLFRIEND?
FLIRTING WITH A YOUNG CUTIE LIKE THIS...
MAYBE I SHOULD LOCK YOU UP... HA HA!
YOUNG CUTIE...?
YEAH... I'VE ALREADY BEEN PUNISHED ON THIS MATTER...
HUH?

THIS FROG MONSTER WHISKED HER AWAY.

NOW I HEARD YOU MENTION THAT KUNIEDA WAS KIDNAPPED.
CAN YOU TELL ME MORE ABOUT THAT?
UM..

MR. SASATIMA... YOU'RE REALLY GONNA GET JUDGED IF YOU KEEP UP THAT PERVY TALK
GLARE
HUH?
HOW FAR HAVE YOU GONE, ANYWAY?
NOW, NOW THIS IS NO TIME FOR GAMES, TAKURO
WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO FINISH UP HERE SO YOU CAN GET BACK TO YOUR CUTE GIRLFRIEND?

WE RECENTLY DISCOVERED A BODY IN THIS AREA THAT HAD BEEN PRACTICALLY MELTED DOWN TO THE BONE
DON'T YOU WATCH THE NEWS?
A MELTED BODY?
HM. I KNOW SHE WAS INVESTIGATING A CASE INVOLVING A MELTED BODY

I'M SATSU. PLEASED TO MEET YOU. WAS MS KUNIEDA IN ANY TROUBLE RECENTLY?
IS THERE ANYONE WHO MIGHT HOLD A GRUDGE AGAINST HER?
HUH?
ペコッ
SHF

GAHHHH!
A BUDDING MASOCHIST... I SEE, TAKURO.
SINCE YOUR MOTHER'S NOT HERE TO APPROVE, LET ME SAY YOU'VE FOUND A FINE WOMAN.
IF I WANT YOUR APPROVAL, I'LL ASK FOR IT.
AND WHO'S A MASOCHIST?
DON'T GAZE UPON ME AS YOU REMEMBER THAT.
I'VE ALREADY PUT A NEW OUTFIT ON.
SPEAKING OF WHICH, YOUR CLOTHES MELTED OFF...
THE BODY WAS SO BADLY MELTED THAT WE COULDN'T EVEN GET AN I D
I WONDER HOW IT HAPPENED
WHO DID SHE SUSPECT?
A DETECTIVE NAMED KITO.
HE'S GOT A REAL SCARY-LOOKING MUG
EASY TO ASSUME HE'S UP TO NO GOOD
ANYHOW, KUNIEDA SUSPECTED ONE OF MY FELLOW DETECTIVES WAS THE PERPETRATOR OF THAT CRIME...
..THOUGH SHE SEEMED TO BE INVESTIGATING THE CASE ON HER OWN.
HUH?
NO, I
LIKE I SAID, THIS IS NO TIME FOR GAMES.
WHOA, WHOA.. YOU'RE SAYING YOU THINK KITO IS RESPONSIBLE? YOU THINK HE'S THE FROGMAN?
A AND WHERE IS HE NOW...?

...IF SHE FOUND SOME SORT OF PROOF THAT MR. KITO IS ACTUALLY THE FROG-MAN....
...MAYBE HE ATTACKED HER TO KEEP HER QUIET...
THIS IS JUST CONJEC-TURE, BUT...
HERE'S THE REA-SON MS. KUNIEDA WAS ATTACKED BY THE FROG-MAN...
IT'S LIKE THIS.
CASE OF THE MELTED BODIES
(CASE OF THE FROGMAN)
SCARY-FACED KITO
SUSPECTS HIM OF BEING THE CULPRIT
KUNIEDA
BASI-CAL-LY...
UH...
LET'S SNEAK IN...
IT APPEARS THAT HE'S NOT IN.
POP
*CHARACTER IN SEAL: BIG
Kito
RATTLE RATTLE
ガチャ
ガチャ
CASE OF THE MELTED BODIES
ピンポーン
PING PONG
HOW FORTUITOUS THAT YOU KNOW WHERE MR. KITO LIVES.
THAT'S BECAUSE HE WORKED WITH MY MOTHER.
I HAD HIS ADDRESS AT HOME.
WHA-
SSSHWIP

GIANT HELL
WHOAAA!

OH, I SET IT
YOU CAN NOW SNEAK IN THROUGH THE MAIL SLOT
UNLOCK THE DOOR FROM THE INSIDE.

C-CUT IT OUT
DON'T EVEN JOKE ABOUT THAT.
EAT YOU, PERHAPS...
HEH HEH HEH HEH...
POKE POKE

W-WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO?
YOINK

NOW THEN...
LET'S SEARCH FOR CLUES CONCERNING THE FROGMAN.
GLANCE UP MY SKIRT AND I WILL CRUSH YOU
JUST TURN ME BACK TO NORMAL ALREADY!!
THE SHAME MUST BE BALANCED
SHOW ME MORE, PLEASE.
S-SORRY
YOU'LL REVERT AFTER ENOUGH TIME HAS PASSED
TIME? HOW LONG—
UNT
HMPH...
Hiroshi Kito
MR. KITO'S FACE IS TRULY FRIGHTENING.
THAT SAID, HE'S LIKE AN ADORABLE KITTEN COMPARED TO FATHER.
YEAH. TRY NOT TO COMPARE PEOPLE TO KING ENMA.

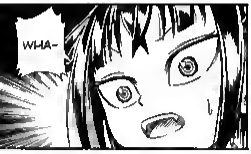
COMING FROM THE VERANDA...
WHAT'S THIS STICKY STUFF...?
SOMETHING WAS DRAGGED HERE?

HEY! DOESN'T THIS COUNT AS BREAKING AND ENTERING?
HM?

IT SEEMS
THERE'S NO EVIDENCE OF THE FROGMAN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER...

THE TRAIL KEEPS GOING...

YOU'RE BACK TO NORMAL SIZE.
WHAT IS IT?!
TH-THAT...


WHA-

WAHHHHHHH!

WHAT HAPPENED HERE?
NOT SURE I JUST FOLLOWED A TRAIL AND FOUND THIS
I NOTICED THE BATH HAD THE COVER ON IT.
KIND OF WEIRD GIVEN THAT NO ONE'S HOME SO I CHECKED, AND...
THE COVER WAS CONCEALING THIS BODY
COULD THIS BE...MS KUNIEDA?
I'M NOT SURE ABOUT THAT..

THIS... NO PERSON COULD DO THIS
ONLY... A REAL MONSTER.
BUT NOW WE KNOW THAT MR. KITO IS THE FROGMAN
IT'S TOO WEIRD
IT WAS NO MONSTER. JUST HUMAN MALICE
HUMAN MALICE...
DEMONS FEED ON HUMAN MALICE
AND GRANT THEM POWER IN EXCHANGE THAT'S ALL.
YOUR MOTHER WAS WITH THE POLICE FORCE, CORRECT?
IS THAT WHY YOU'RE SO DEDICATED TO THIS CASE?
YOUR MOTHER INSTILLED QUITE A SENSE OF JUSTICE IN YOU.
NAH... IT'S NOT ABOUT JUSTICE OR ANY-THING LIKE THAT

THANK YOU THE MISSION IS COMPLETE
HUH?
ANY-HOW
ピタッ
I'LL HAVE TO REWARD YOU TO KEEP EVERY-THING IN BALANCE
SKRTCH SKRTCH
...YOU SERVED ME NO YOU WENT ABOVE AND BEYOND
JUST AS YOU PROM-ISED...
THE MYSTERY OF THE FROGMAN IS SOLVED
NOW IT'S UP TO RUI AND ME TO FIND MR. KITO
THRUST THRUST
NOT THIS AGAIN...
FOR EVERY CRIME A PUNISH-MENT FOR EVERY GOOD EFFORT A RE-WARD!!
WE CANNOT PART UNTIL BALANCE IS ACHIEVED
THRUST THRUST
WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE? WHAT IS IT YOU DESIRE?
HUH? NOTHING REALLY

WHAT DO I DO WITH ALL THIS...? IT'S NOTHING BUT TEA.
GOOD THING I LIKE IT.
TEA FOR TSUKUMO
FROM SATSU
とぉーん
SATSU

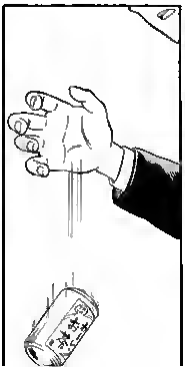
IF I DON'T REWARD YOU MY BLOOD WILL BOIL AND EX PLODE! I'LL DO ANY-THING!
F!!INE! JUST BUY ME A DRINK FROM THAT VENDING MACHINE

NOW, TSUKUMO, LET US MAKE A TOAST TO HELL.

*CAN: TEA

IN THE HOPES THAT WE WILL MEET AGAIN SOMEDAY.
IN THE HOPES THAT WE SHALL LIVE IN HEALTH AND HAPPI-NESS.

DON'T THINK ABOUT IT.


STOP

SHEESH FIRST SHE HEAD-BUTT'S ME, THEN SHE JABS ME IN THE EYES

ALL THAT TROUBLE, FOR...

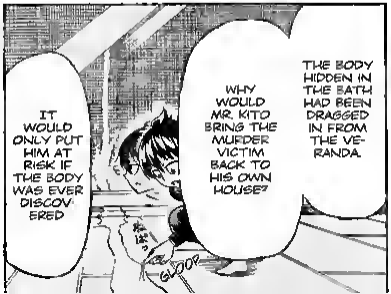
(CASE OF THE FROGMAN)
SCARY-FACED KITO
SUSPECTS HIM OF BEING THE CULPRIT
KUNIEDA
GLOOP
FWOOSH
SHAH
TMP TMP

FOUND YOU, FROGMAN
!!

THE MAIN REASON TO HIDE A BODY...
...IS TO KEEP INVESTIGATORS FROM IDENTIFYING THE VICTIM.
WHAT GAVE ME AWAY?

I'VE BEEN TAILING YOU
HOW'D YOU...?

AND THAT IS JUST HOW YOU PLANNED IT


IT WOULD ONLY PUT HIM AT RISK IF THE BODY WAS EVER DISCOVERED
WHY WOULD MR. KITO BRING THE MURDER VICTIM BACK TO HIS OWN HOUSE?
THE BODY HIDDEN IN THE BATH HAD BEEN DRAGGED IN FROM THE VERANDA.
GUOO!

...THERE WAS NO REASON TO HIDE IT
BUT SINCE THERE IS NO WAY TO ID A MELTED BODY...

IN ORDER TO MAKE US THINK THAT MR. KITO WAS BEHIND THE MELTED BODY MURDERS,
YOU HID ONE OF THOSE BODIES IN HIS HOUSE

MR. SASAJIMA.

YOU TRIED TO TRICK MS. KUNIEDA WITH THAT.
AS WELL AS ME AND SATSU.

THEN THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE YOU SAID...
WHOA, WHOA... YOU'RE SAYING YOU THINK KITO IS RESPONSIBLE? YOU THINK HE'S THE FROG-MAN?

IF YOU DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT DEMONS IN THE FIRST PLACE...
HOW WOULD YOU KNOW THAT THE FROG MONSTER WAS ORIGINALLY A HUMAN? I THOUGHT THAT WAS STRANGE...
...SO I DECIDED TO FOLLOW YOU

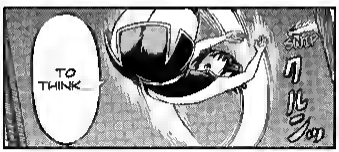
PRETTY GOOD...
DIDN'T YOU WANT TO BE A DETECTIVE LIKE YOUR MOM BACK WHEN YOU WERE A KID?

OVER THE YEARS OF WORKING AS A DETECTIVE, I STARTED TO ADMIRE ALL THOSE MURDERERS
KRAK
KRAK KRAK
I WANTED TO MURDER PEOPLE TOO. ALL WHILE EVADING ARREST.
WITH THOSE THOUGHTS SWIRLING ABOUT IN MY HEAD, I RAN INTO A FROG WHO GRANTED ME THIS BODY.
I'VE KILLED SO MANY ALREADY.
YOU'LL NEVER BE A DETECTIVE LIKE YOUR MOM...
...CUZ YOU'RE GOING TO DIE HERE.
I KNEW THAT MUCH ALREADY.
HA HA... SO I WON'T GROW UP TO BE LIKE MOM?
BECAUSE... I'M NOT LIKE HER. I DON'T HAVE HER SENSE OF JUSTICE.
WHAT I DO HAVE IS...
SOME THING YOU'VE GOT TOO

WHA-
SMASH
...MALICE!
THIS UGLY...

I LOVE LIVING MY CALM EVERYDAY LIFE
Y'SEE, MR. SASAJIMA.
GOING TO SCHOOL.
JOKING AROUND WITH FRIENDS
DOING CLUB ACTIVITIES
EVEN PICKLING MY TAKUAN
FOR ME, EVERY BORING DAY IS PRECIOUS.
MAYBE I SHOULD JUST GIVE IN...
SHINK SHINK
IT'LL PROBABLY HELP ME TAKE OUT JERKS LIKE YOU WHO CORRUPT OUR NORMAL EVERYDAY EXISTENCE...

KILL HIM KILL HIM KILL HIM KILL HIM



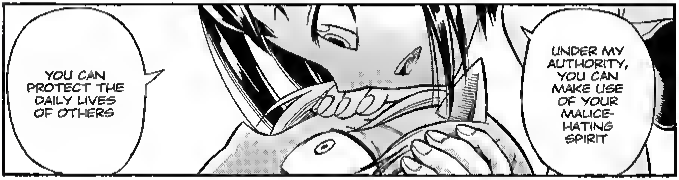
*CHARACTER ON GAVEL: COLD

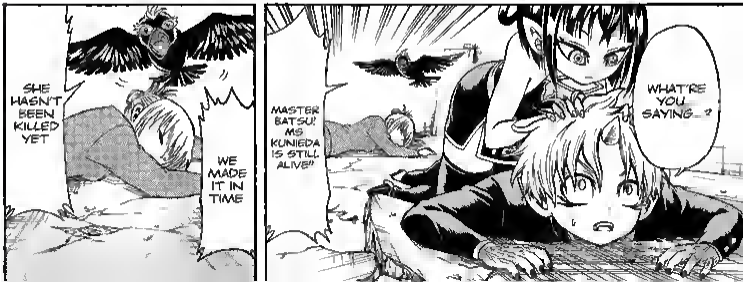
FROM THE WAY YOU LOOK, I'D SAY THAT...
SKIP
...AN OGRE FROM HELL'S POSSESSING YOU
SINCE WHEN..? WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
MY MOM...
WAS KILLED

TWO YEARS AGO...
MY ONLY FAMILY IN THE WORLD...
...WAS TAKEN FROM ME
IT WAS ONLY THEN THAT I REALIZED...
...HOW GRATEFUL I WAS FOR THE EVERYDAY.
WHEN I TELL YOU DINNER'S READY, YOU COME.
FOOLISH BOY!

I WANTED NOTHING MORE THAN REVENGE AGAINST THE BASTARD WHO RUINED MY LIFE.
...AND THAT'S WHEN I GOT POSSESSED BY AN OGRE.
DO YOU HATE ME? THEN COME FIND ME...
...AND KILL ME.
I HATED THIS FORM...
...BECAUSE NOW I LOOK LIKE THE ONE I DESPISE.
BUT...
UP UNTIL NOW, I'VE TRIED TO LIVE MY LIFE WHILE IGNORING ALL THIS UGLINESS.
RUINING PEOPLE'S EVERYDAY LIVES...
THAT MALICE... THESE DAMN DEMONS...
I CAN'T FORGIVE ANY OF THEM!

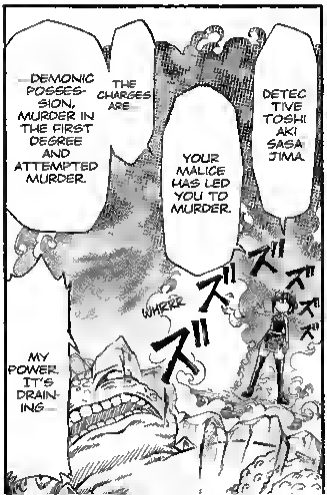
IN THAT CASE...
HOW ABOUT YOU WORK AS MY MINION ONCE MORE?

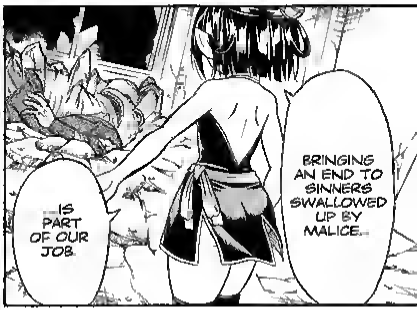

UNDER MY AUTHORITY, YOU CAN MAKE USE OF YOUR MALICE-HATING SPIRIT
YOU CAN PROTECT THE DAILY LIVES OF OTHERS


WHAT'RE YOU SAYING...?
MASTER BATSU! MS. KUNIEDA IS STILL ALIVE!!
WE MADE IT IN TIME
SHE HASN'T BEEN KILLED YET

SEE, TSUKUMO?
THAT'S THE EVERY-DAY THAT YOU PRO-TECTED.
YOUR MOM'S AN OFFICER OF THE LAW, TAKURO.
MUSS ぐり MUSS ぐり
..SO YOU BETTER LISTEN TO WHAT SHE SAYS.
SO WHAT? WHO CARES?
YOUR MOM.
..PROTECTS EVERYONE IN THEIR EVERY-DAY LIVES.
IT WAS YOUR HATRED THAT EXPOSED THE REAL CRIMINAL HERE.
PUP
EVEN AS I AM, NOW...
I CAN MAKE USE OF THAT POWER IF YOU SERVE UNDER ME.
PUP PUP
...I CAN PRO-TECT THE EVERY-DAY LIVES OF OTH-ERS?

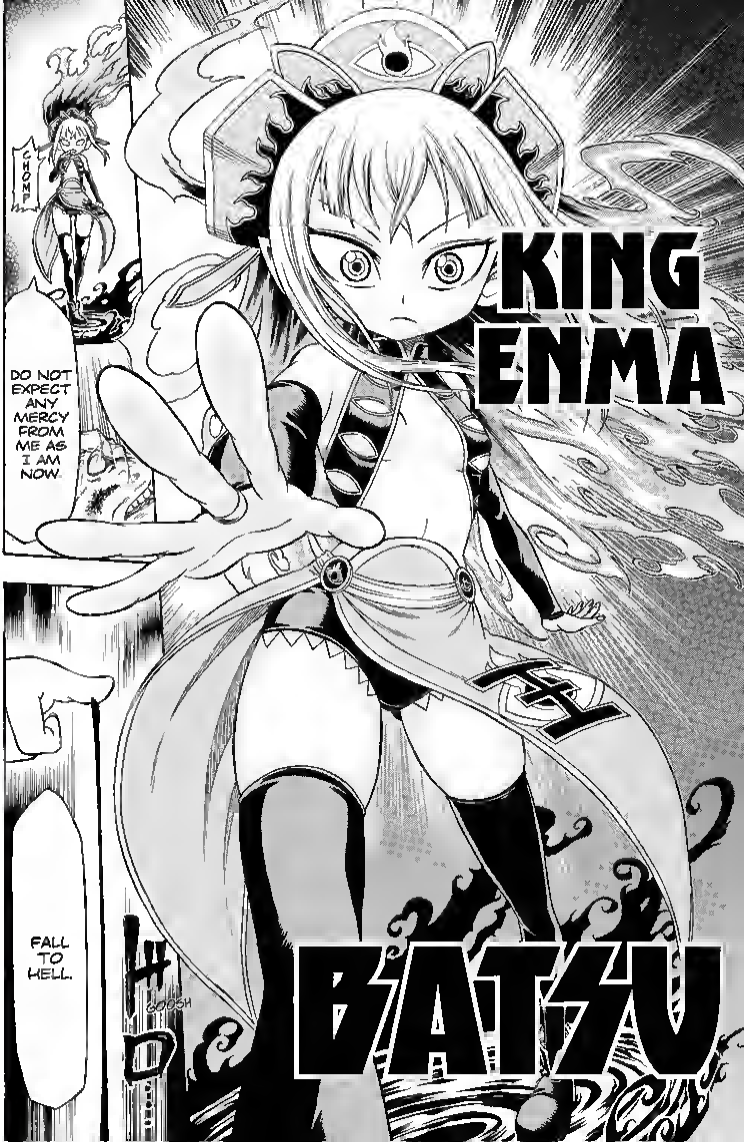
LET'S DO IT.
EATSU
HEH HEH HEH HEH...
GOOD TO BE WORKING WITH YOU, TSUKUMO
GRAB
GRAB


DETECTIVE TOSHIAKI SASAJIMA.
YOUR MALICE HAS LED YOU TO MURDER.
THE CHARGES ARE—
—DEMONIC POSSESSION, MURDER IN THE FIRST DEGREE AND ATTEMPTED MURDER.
MY POWER. IT'S DRAINING—
WHRRR
ズズズズズ


BRINGING AN END TO SINNERS SWALLOWED UP BY MALICE.
IS PART OF OUR JOB.

BECAUSE YOU EXPOSED THIS ONE FOR WHO HE IS.
I CAN NOW PASS JUDGMENT

スーーアッ
FWOOSH
NOW THAT YOU'VE REVEALED THE NATURE OF YOUR MALICE TO ME...
PUFF
BATSU, ONLY DAUGHTER OF KING ENMA...
GET READY!
THAT MALICE..
IT'S TIME FOR JUDGMENT!
...GRANTS POWER TO MY ENMA BLOOD.


CHOMP
DO NOT EXPECT ANY MERCY FROM ME AS I AM NOW.
KING ENMA
FALL TO HELL.
GOOSH
BATSU

SPLASH
!!
THE LAKE OF BLOOD LEADING TO YOMI
W-WHAT'D YOU DO? I'M LOSING POWER...
I'M STILL NEW AT THIS.
I CANNOT WIELD THE KING'S POWER WITHOUT FIRST CONSUMING YOUR POWER.
BUT NOW I CAN SEND YOU TO HELL.
I'M NOT KILLING YOU ONCE YOU'VE ENDURED TORTURE AND REFLECTED ON YOUR CRIMES IN HELL, I'LL RETURN YOU TO THIS WORLD
WE'RE THE ENEMIES OF EVIL, HERE TO PRESERVE—
THEN THE HUMAN WORLD WILL ONCE AGAIN FIND BALANCE AND ORDER
...THE EVERYDAY.
...ORDER.
WHO... ARE YOU TWO?
D-DAMN...

*SEAL: DEAD AGAIN
BLOODG-MENT!
BE DEAD ONCE MORE! PURIFY THIS SOUL!
DEATH REDUX!
SLAM
SLAM
SLAM
WHAP
ドドド

WAHHHHHH!
AS YOU JOURNEY TO HELL, YOU WILL EXPERIENCE THE SAME PAIN AS YOUR VICTIMS.
GLUB
SSSH
W WHAT?
MNOP
GAHHHHH!

CHIRP CHIRP
チュン チュン
TRYING TO RECLAIM THE SENSE OF THE EVERY-DAY...
DUHHH
MORNING, TAKUAN.
HIIII...
HELLO...
SPACING OUT AGAIN, I SEE.
OH! THAT'S TAKUAN FROM CLASS 3.
BUB BUB BUB
TAKUAN'S BACK TO HIS DAILY ROUTINE... TO SOME EXTENT
TAKURO TSUKUMO YOUR MALICE DRIVES YOUR VENGEFUL SPIRIT
YOU ARE CHARGED WITH DEMONIC POSSESSION
BLOODGMENT!

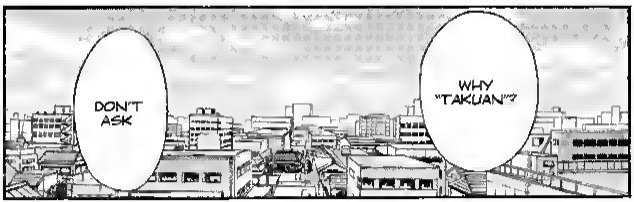
SORRY I'M LATE.
I RAN INTO DIFFICULTIES WITH THE CLEANUP.
HEY... WHAT IS THIS?
EEP!
AS PART OF YOUR PROBATION...
YOU GET A SPECIAL MINION COLLAR
KLANK
ガシーーーーン

EVERY TIME YOU LET YOUR EMOTIONS RUN WILD
THIS WILL HAPPEN SO BE CAREFUL
ガシッ
SLAM
ドゴ
YOU'VE BEEN POSSESSED BY A DEMON FOR SOME TIME NOW, SO...
IT'S NOT AS IF YOU CAN JUST BE ACQUITTED
AS PUNISHMENT, YOU WILL BECOME MY FULL-TIME MINION

UNTIL THAT DAY COMES, YOUR PUNISHMENT WILL CONTINUE.
TSUKUMO. YOU MUST CONFRONT YOUR MALICE...
...OR THE OGRE INSIDE WILL DEVOUR YOU.
SINS ARE COMMITTED BY THOSE WHO CANNOT CONTROL THEIR MALICE
THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A HUMAN WITHOUT MALICE.

AND I'M TAKURO TSUKUMO... ALSO KNOWN AS TAKUAN.
ペコ
I AM THE ONLY DAUGHTER OF KING ENMA.
WITH THAT OUT OF THE WAY, I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU.
YOU CAN CALL ME BATSU.

AND THAT'S HOW MY DAILY LIFE WITH BATSU BEGAN.



TO BE CONTINUED...